MURRAY PARKS AND RECREATION ADVISORY BOARD

Minutes of Meeting

Wednesday, December 10, 2008

Board Members in Attendance

Ted Eyre, Chair Lisa Nelson, Vice Chair Wayne Bott Morgan Selph Darren Stam

Staff

Doug Hill

The Parks & Recreation Board Meeting was called to order at 5:30pm by Chair, Ted Eyre.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Darren Stam made a motion to approve the September 10, 2008 board minutes as written. Lisa Nelson seconded. Motion was unanimous.

CITIZEN COMMENTS

Eight students from Murray High School's U.S. Government class attended the meeting as an assignment to see how this type of a meeting was conducted.

Ted Eyre welcomed the students and asked them to give their name. Doug Hill explained to the students how the board was formed and that they each represent one of the five council districts of Murray City. Doug said that the board members volunteer their time and that they each have different interests in their personal life. He said that the board takes recommendations to the Murray City Council through the Mayor.

CONSIDER IMPLEMENTATION OF A NONRESIDENT FEE AT THE MURRAY CITY CEMETERY

After the Parks & Recreation Board met in September, Doug said that he took the board's recommendations to the Mayor regarding cemetery fee increases. There was a brief discussion regarding nonresident fees, but there was no action taken on this issue. The Mayor is considering a nonresident fee, and he would like to take the board's recommendations to the next council meeting. Currently, the Murray City Cemetery does not have a nonresident fee. Doug said that staff at the cemetery is concerned that the remaining lots at the cemetery will sell out quickly and that most of the purchases will be from nonresidents since the rate is very reasonable and there is not a nonresident fee. Most other city cemeteries have a nonresident rate which is substantially higher than the resident rate.

Doug explained that the challenge of implementing a nonresident rate could bring about the potential of creating a lot of policy issues, i.e., who is a resident, when were they a resident, how long have they been a resident, etc. In checking with other city cemeteries, resident versus nonresident was dependent upon what the case was at the time of death.

After some discussion between board members, Darren Stam made a motion that the city implement a nonresident fee on lot sales in the cemetery. Lisa Nelson seconded. Motion was unanimous.

Board members asked that Doug take a recommendation to the staff that as this new policy is evaluated that a two-step process be considered. Step One–Where did you live when you died, and Step Two–(If you were in a care facility) Where did you live just prior to death.

CONSIDER REQUEST BY SKI UTAH

Doug explained that Ski Utah is a state organization that receives funding from the State of Utah and the ski resorts in Utah. Their primary focus is to promote skiing both inside and outside of Utah. Ski Utah recently hired an individual who came from outside of the state, and they would like to set up a snowboard terrain park in Murray Park. This would be in an area of the park that would be set up with snow making machines and rails suitable for beginners. They would work with the ski resorts to provide all of the equipment, machines, etc. This area would be maintained and operated by representatives of Ski Utah and would be open to the public at no charge for approximately a 3-week period of time. This area would be unsupervised, and the city would require hold harmless agreements and certificates of insurance. Ski Utah would be liable for the operation. Ski Utah has looked at several parks, but they are especially interested in Murray Park. There would be no money exchange between Ski Utah and Murray City.

As board members discussed this request, there were concerns with liability, appropriate supervision, noise from snowmaking machine, and wear on the park.

Doug stated that this issue would require Planning Commission approval; they would come up with stipulations before the activity would be approved.

A motion was made by Lisa Nelson to approve the Ski Utah request of a temporary snowboard terrain park in Murray Park if concerns are adequately addressed regarding liability, noise, and wear on the park. Lisa accepted Morgan Selph's addition that appropriate supervision be considered as part of her motion. Motion was seconded by Morgan Selph. Motion was unanimous.

CONSIDER REQUEST TO INSTALL A SPONSOR RECOGNITION SIGN AT KEN PRICE BALLPARK

Doug stated that the Babe Ruth committee is getting closer to hosting the World Series Babe Ruth 13-Year-Old Tournament at Ken Price Ballpark, and he said that he was approached by a committee member because they are trying to get sponsors for the tournament. An idea this individual had was to establish a sign where sponsors could be recognized, i.e., a sign similar to Murray High's sponsor sign.

Murray City would not be involved in maintaining the sign or obtaining sponsors. The city would be concerned with the location of the sign on city property.

Board members were given a drawing by Young Electric Sign showing a pole sign located on Vine Street. Doug reported that the staff is not supportive of a sponsor sign on Vine Street but possibly somewhere on the Ken Price building and possibly a monument type sign.

Darren Stam said that as he started thinking about a sponsor sign at Ken Price Ballpark that he also thought about the fact that there was not a sign indicating where to turn into Ken Price from Vine Street. Given the number of people coming for the World Series, Darren felt that there did need to be a direction sign for the ballpark.

Wayne Bott made a motion to consider signage for Ken Price Ballpark but that an advertising sign be within the park itself and not on Vine Street. Lisa Nelson seconded. Motion was unanimous with Darren Stam abstaining from the vote because of conflict of interest.

DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Doug said that because of the economy and its effect on revenue to the city, projects have been put on hold. The Master Plan for Parks and Recreation and the pavilions are on hold.

Next month's board meeting will be the last meeting for Wayne Bott and Darren Stam. They have both served three three-year terms on the board for a total of nine years. We will recognize Wayne and Darren at the next meeting. Also, at the next meeting, we will elect a new Chair and Vice Chair. The Mayor is currently accepting recommendations for these two positions; they would need to come from District #2 and District #4.

QUESTIONS

Darren asked if there was any news on the armory. The problem at the moment is to get the armory to sign an agreement to purchase. The Mayor has written a letter to Salt Lake County and has requested funding, and Salt Lake County is currently setting up a process whereby those funds could be distributed to communities for park acquisitions. We are currently waiting to see if the city will receive funds to acquire the armory property. The purchase price for the property is \$385,000.00 for 2.1 acres.

Darren said that he would like to mention one last recommendation before leaving the board. He said that he had concerns about a skateboard park going in at the armory location, should that property be acquired, since it was too private. He would like the city to consider talking with the school district about putting in an indoor practice facility for baseball. This would be right next to the ballpark. He said that Cottonwood High School put in a facility for \$100,000. This would give Murray Baseball and the high school kids a place to practice.

ADJOURNMENT

Darren Stam made a motion to adjourn. Morgan Selph seconded. Motion was unanimous. Meeting adjourned at 6:50pm

The next regularly scheduled Parks and Recreation Advisory Board Meeting will be Wednesday, January 14, 2008, at 5:30pm in the Parks and Recreation conference room located at 296 East Murray Park Lane.